

Energy Utility Assessment and Resolution Program House File 347

Last Action:

**House Commerce
Committee**

February 8, 2007

Executive Summary Only

An Act establishing an energy utility assessment and resolution program for certain persons with low incomes who have or need a deferred payment agreement to address home energy utility costs and making an appropriation.

**Fiscal Services Division
Legislative Services Agency**

NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)

Available on line at <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp>

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS

HOUSE FILE 347
ENERGY UTILITY ASSESS. & RESOLUTION PROGRAM

**ENERGY UTILITY ASSESSMENT
AND RESOLUTION PROGRAM
ESTABLISHED**

- House File 347 establishes the Energy Utility Assessment and Resolution Program for certain persons with low incomes to prevent utility disconnections that may lead to public health risks.
- The 2006 Low-Income Energy Assistance Program and Weatherization Interim Study Committee proposed this legislation to establish the energy assistance and resolution program on a pilot basis through local Community Action Agencies.
- The Program will assist approximately 5,000 customers of municipal utility companies, eligible for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), at a cost of \$200 per customer.
- The Program requires participants to be taught skills that improve money management, allow negotiation of a deferred payment agreement, and develop a written household energy affordability plan to make regular uninterrupted utility payments.
- Appropriates \$1.0 million from the General Fund for FY 2008 to the Division of Community Action Agencies in the Department of Human Rights for this Program.
- This Bill takes effect July 1, 2007, and the Program is repealed on July 1, 2010.

APPROPRIATION

EFFECTIVE DATE